Despatch from the Secretary of State.

(No. 317.)

No. 1.

No. 1.

Copy of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Governor-General the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.

My LORD,

Downing-street, January 26, 1849.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's Despatch, No. 4, of the 4th of January, transmitting a petition to the Queen from the inhabitants of Montreal, praying for the repeal or modification of the Navigation Laws of the United Kingdom, together with two similar petitions for presentation to the two Houses of Parliament.

I have to request your Lordship to acquaint the petitioners that I have laid their petition before the Queen, and have received Her Majesty's commands to announce to them the intention of Her Majesty's servants to recommend to Parliament a measure to effect the object of which they are desirous.

Your Lordship will also inform the petitioners that the necessary steps will be taken for laying the petitions before both Houses of Parliament early in the approaching Session.

I have, &c, (Signed) GREY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, &c. &c. &c.

Page 9.